State Board of Directors

Candidate Bios

CO FARM BUREAU®



PRESIDENT

Carlyle Currier

MESA COUNTY - MEMBER SINCE 1982

Carlyle Currier is a fourth-generation rancher in Molina, CO, with part of his ranch officially designated as a Colorado Centennial Farm. A CSU graduate, he has been active in CFB most of his adult life, serving as Mesa County FB President for most of the 1980's.

He was elected to the CFB Board in 1996, and served as VP for ten years before being elected President in 2020. He was elected to the AFBF Board in 2023 and was appointed to the AFBF Executive Committee this year.
Carlyle has been very involved in water policy. He helped start the Colorado Ag Water Alliance and has served on its board since 2006, including several years as chairman. He also represented the Colorado River Basin on the CO Interbasin Compact Committee for 20 years, resigning last year due to the increasing time demands from AFBF.

He is a past member of the Cattlemen's Beef Board, and represented CFB on the USMEF Board. Carlyle and Dawn have two grown children, Joel and Julia.



VICE PRESIDENT

James Henderson

CONEJOS COUNTY - MEMBER SINCE 2011

James Henderson is a fifth-generation farmer and rancher from Colorado's San Luis Valley, where his family has continuously operated their ranch since 1882. Their operation includes cattle, small grains, alfalfa, and other forage crops.

James has served as Vice President of Colorado Farm Bureau since 2020 and is a graduate of both the CFB Emerging Leaders Academy and AFBF Partners in Advocacy Leadership programs.

His leadership extends beyond Farm Bureau through service on the EPA's Farm, Ranch, and Rural Communities Federal Advisory Committee (FRRCC), the Colorado Ag Water Alliance Board, the Mountain States Legal Foundation Board, and the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable.

James is committed to advancing sound, pro-agriculture public policies through effective advocacy, education, and relationship-building. He believes agriculture's success depends on maintaining a credible voice and building lasting relationships with policymakers, regulators, and stakeholders, even when perspectives differ.

Having served Colorado Farm Bureau for the past seven years, James remains focused on strengthening the organization, protecting the interests of its members, and ensuring Colorado agriculture has a strong voice in shaping public policy.

He respectfully asks for your support for another two-year term as Vice President.



DISTRICT 2

Kreg Vollmer

LOGAN COUNTY - MEMBER SINCE 2016

Kreg Vollmer currently represents District 2 on the Board of Directors at Colorado Farm Bureau. He resides in Merino and works as the Senior Agriculturalist for Western Sugar Cooperative in Colorado, handling 3,000+ acres around the Fort Morgan factory as well as the shipment of pulp to dairies and cattle feeders. Outside of those agronomic and by-product duties, he also assists with sugar policy advocacy at a federal level and helps co-op growers understand local and state policies and how they affect them.

Outside of his day job, Kreg has some row crops (corn and sugarbeets) that he began growing alongside his family in 2023. He also runs his own cattle feeding operation that he began in 2019 and feeds out nearly 500 head of mixed angus steers and heifers each year.

He is seeking to continue as the District 2 rep. Kreg has been a member of Farm Bureau since 2016, starting as a member of Adams State's collegiate chapter. Since joining the board in 2024, Kreg has spent much of his time working closely with his counties to elevate their concerns regarding policy to the state capital and at a federal level as well. Over many roundtables, meetings, and in-depth conversations, Kreg has continued to advocate for agriculture and his district.

With the changes at both the federal and state levels, we will need to advocate with renewed vigor, and Kreg hopes to continue serving as a voice for members in the days, months, and years to come.



DISTRICT 6

Don Richards

DOUGLAS COUNTY - MEMBER SINCE 2018

Don Richards, CFP®, CPFA®, CSP®, AFFP® has been a financial advisor and an independent insurance broker since 1984. He earned his BS in Civil Engineering from the University of Colorado in 1978, his MBA in Finance from the University of Denver in 1983, his Certified Financial Planner® designation in 1989, his Certified Plan Fiduciary Advisor® designation in 2021, his Certified Succession Planner® designation in 2025, and his Agriculture-Focused Financial Planner® designation in 2026. Don currently holds FINRA Series 7, 63 and 65 registrations and provides investment products through Cetera Wealth Services, LLC. Don is the founder of The Richards Financial Group, Inc. and Texarado Western Advisors, LLC, and he is an associate with The Benefit Team, LLC, an employee benefits consulting and brokerage firm.

Don is involved in numerous community and professional organizations and has served on the boards and advisory councils of several charitable foundations, including the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce, Colorado Farm Bureau, Colorado FFA Foundation, Young Americans Education Foundation and Junior Achievement of Metro Denver. He served on the Chamber's Executive Committee from 2008 through 2009. Don is an active member and volunteer with the Denver Chamber, is a graduate of the 2007 class of Leadership Denver, an eight-time delegate in the Leadership Exchange program and a six-time delegate in Colorado Experience. He is a 2011 graduate of Leadership Program of the Rockies (where he now serves on the LPR Advisory Council), a member the American Enterprise Institute Leadership Network, and a chapter officer of the Vino & Veritas Society. Don served on the steering committee of the Dean’s Society at the Daniels College of Business and has served as a mentor in the Daniels Scholars program. He currently serves as Chair of the Colorado Farm Bureau Political Action Committee. Don is an active member of the Western Stock Show Association, the Silver Spur Club at the National Western Stock Show & Rodeo, Colorado Livestock Association, Colorado Cattlemen's Association, and the Denver Agriculture & Livestock Club (where he serves as Vice President), and he is a long-time supporter of the Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust.

Distinctions:

- Honoree - Leaders In Agriculture (Denver Business Journal) - 2025
- Daniels College of Business Outstanding Alumnus of the Year – 2015
- Robert Blankenship Heart Award (Denver Chamber) – 2014
- Reiman School of Finance Distinguished Alumni Award (Daniels College of Business) – 2013
- David E. Bailey Small-Business Advocate Award (Denver Chamber) – 2008
- Four-time recipient of the Chamber Champion Award

Prior to founding his financial advisory businesses, Don worked as a civil / construction engineer in the cement manufacturing industry, before which he worked on the Trans-Alaska Pipeline and in the oilfields in northeastern Wyoming.
Don has climbed all of Colorado’s Fourteeners and is a regular participant in long-distance cycling events. He is a pen-and-ink artist whose work has been published since 1972. He is captain of a goat roping team at the National Western Stock Show & Rodeo, supporting the National Western Scholarship Trust. Don is a frequent speaker at various events and programs within the Denver business, civic and academic communities.



DISTRICT 8

Charly Minkler

LA PLATA COUNTY - MEMBER SINCE 2004

I am a 4th generation Coloradan, and have lived in La Plata County since 1982. Though I grew up in Denver, my life changed forever when I married into agriculture in 1989. My wife Katie and I own and operate Stone Peak Ranch, east of Ignacio. I have embraced Ag and rural life whole heartedly, and understand the issues facing rural and Ag residents. Katie and I help maintain the beauty and value of our area along with our Ag friends and neighbors by striving to improve our ranch and keep it in production. I have the following agricultural and leadership experience:

CFB District 8 Director 2020 to present
La Plata County Farm Bureau President from 2018 to 2020
La Plata County Farm Bureau Board of Directors since 2015 -2026
La Plata County Planning Commission 2015 to 2025
Graduate of CFB Elite Leadership Academy, class of 2018-2019
Graduate of Leadership La Plata, class of 2019-2020

I have worked hard in my community to advocate for agriculture and rural living. As a member of the La Plata County Planning Commission, I helped to draft a new more “Ag friendly” land use code for our county. As a CFB board member representing district 8, I will continue to work at the local, regional, and state level to advocate and protect agriculture, and rural lifestyle. I want to ensure that future generations can, and will stay in Ag, and have the same opportunities tomorrow that we have today.



DISTRICT 4

Bryan Kelly

BACA COUNTY - MEMBER SINCE 1990

Was raised on a farm and ranch in Baca County on the Cimarron River. I went to college at Mid America Nazarene in Olatha, KS, and returned to the farm in 1989. Shortly after returning home, I joined the Baca County board as the YF&R rep, then moved on to Vice President and then to President. After stepping off the board for a short time, I returned in 2022. Since then, I have served on the State Board for District 4 and would love to continue my service to this organization in this capacity.



DISTRICT 10

Brita Horn

ROUTT COUNTY - MEMBER SINCE 2012

Brita Horn's journey into ranching began with a marriage proposal that couldn't be denied: "I can't take my cows to California; will you marry me?" A city girl turned ranch wife, Brita married lifelong rancher Gary, and together they run the family's Raymond Horn Ranch in McCoy, Colorado (population 28), alongside Gary's twin brother Dale and family: a thriving 1,60-acre cow/calf operation with nearly 250 head. Brita and Gary raised daughters Abbey and Belle on the ranch, instilling the values of hard work and community. The girls now live in Kansas and Nebraska, and Brita is a proud grandmother.

Brita's advocacy is rooted in her dedication to preserving the Western way of life. As District 10 board member for Colorado Farm Bureau, she represents Eagle, Garfield, Middle Park, Moffat, Rio Blanco, and Routt counties. She travels to each county's annual meeting/events, attends state board events, writes award applications recognizing the counties and members she represents, and creates virtual events that educate livestock producers on topics like virtual fencing. She also writes pro-ag guest editorials for prominent Colorado media outlets. Brita was recently nominated and preliminarily selected to represent Colorado on the American Farm Bureau Federation's 2027 Technology Issue Advisory Committee.

As past President and current board member of Routt County Farm Bureau, she grew membership by fostering community and engagement and built collaboration with neighboring counties for a unified agricultural voice. She is past President and Vice President of Routt County Cattlewomen, educating the public about the beef industry, and served over 12 years on the Routt County Fair Board, all while hauling kids and livestock to events statewide.

Brita's life embodies her dedication to family, faith, and community. Whether working the ranch, leading on pro-ag policy, penning a book, or serving as Volunteer Fire Chief, Brita is a tireless champion for rural Colorado and its enduring heritage.



YOUNG FARMERS & RANCHERS COMMITTEE

Kole Kelley

DOUGLAS COUNTY - MEMBER SINCE 2016

Kole Kelley is President of the Douglas County Farm Bureau and Chair of the Colorado Bar Association's Agriculture and Rural Law Section. He is an attorney with Fennemore Craig, P.C., where he advises clients in the agriculture, natural resource, and advanced energy industries on complex real property and regulatory matters.

Kole was recently recognized in Best Lawyers in America®: Ones to Watch for his work in Energy Law, Natural Resources Law, and Real Estate Law. He was also named one of the 2025 Leaders in Agriculture and a 2021 Who's Who in Agriculture by the Denver Business Journal.

Kole is a graduate of the Colorado Farm Bureau Elite Leadership Academy; the Colorado Farm Bureau Elite Leadership Academy Masters Class; the Leadership, Policy, and Governance Leadership Training Program; and was recently selected to be included in this year's Colorado Bar Association Leadership Training Program.

Kole's experience includes:

- President, Douglas County Farm Bureau (2023–Present)
- Chair, Colorado Bar Association Agricultural and Rural Law Section (2024–Present)
- Co-Board of Governors Representative, Colorado Bar Association Agricultural and Rural Law Section (2024–Present)
- Vice-Chair, Colorado Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee (2021–Present)
- President, Colorado Junior Swine Association (2023–2025)
- Board Member, Leadership, Policy, and Governance Foundation (2023–Present)
- Member, Colorado Farm Bureau Membership Task Force (2024–2025)
- Member, Colorado Livestock Association (2024–Present)
- Member, Action Colorado (2023–Present)
- Vice-Chair, Colorado Bar Association Agricultural and Rural Law Section (2022–2024)
- Board Member, Colorado Junior Swine Association (2022–2023)
- Member, Presidential Selection Committee, Adams State University (2023)
- Editor-in-Chief, University of Denver Water Law Review, Volume 22 (2019)

Outside of his professional and volunteer leadership, Kole co-runs MPK Showpigs, where his family raises and develops competitive showpigs for youth exhibitors across Colorado and beyond.